Agile PM tools and comparison of up to 3 popular tools

Alexandre Rodrigues

Instituto Superior Técnico

alexandre.rodrigues@tecnico.ulisboa.pt

Miguel Coelho

Instituto Superior Técnico

miguel.g.coelho@tecnico.ulisboa.pt

Guilherme Rodrigues

Instituto Superior Técnico

guilherme.infante.r@tecnico.ulisboa.pt

1. INTRODUCTION

These days, information is growing exponentially. Thus, adaptation and flexibility is necessary to cope with this growth. Companies are working with huge and complex projects made up of a large number of business requirements. Therefore, they need intuitive tools capable of helping them deal with their projects effectively.

Faced with this need for adaptation, companies have adopted an agile methodology consisting of an iterative approach capable of managing projects, creating a workflow structure, adapting to changes and helping teams to deliver value quickly and effectively to the customer. This method ensures that the client feedback is quickly acted on and that changes can be made at each stage of a sprint or product cycle. In other words, it focuses on continuous releases and client feedback. Within this agile methodology, there are software tools named Agile project management tools that help the team to work in a planned, efficient and organized way, helping them to collaborate, maintain the structure, follow-up and record changes. It also allows them to track the progress of the tasks that each member is working on. The difference between these agile tools and other project management tools is the ability to deal with agile structures.

There are different Agile Project Management Tools available on the market, each having its advantages and disadvantages. We will review and compare three of these tools.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Jira

Jira is a software tracking tool that allows teams to plan, track, manage and report on their work. It allows users to manage the project through a drag-and-drop interface, assign tasks and plan sprints. The main advantages of this tool are that it supports Scrum and Kanban boards, the creation of tasks and subtasks, detailed reports and Gantt charts. Plus, it allows milestone tracking and long project planning. On the other hand, its disadvantages are the lack of timeline for tracking progress and the initial complexity of understanding the tool's interface.

2.2 Trello

Trello is an Agile Project Management Tool based on the Kanban framework. It helps teams to collaborate and organize their projects into boards. It's really simple and it supports the teams in a way that they know what's being worked on, who's working on what, and whether something is in a process. Just like Jira, it's made up of drag-and-drop cards organized into lists. Its main features are an interface organized into labels, tags and comments, deadline notifications and automated emails. Also, it is mobile-friendly and allows the assignment of tasks to groups or individuals and voting and discussing options on the different cards. Unlike Jira, it only offers kanban boards whereas Jira offers Kanban and Scrum boards. It does not allow the creation of Gantt charts, like Jira does and Jira is more complex as it has advanced features, however despite being more complex, Trello is

simpler and more flexible allowing a better and faster understanding of the tool. Another difference is that Trello is free (limited use) and Jira only offers a free good version for small teams and projects.

2.3 Pivotal Tracker

Pivotal Tracker is a tool that helps you manage tasks from inception to completion. It is a story-based project tracking tool in which each task is like a story that can be assigned points according to its priority. The tool encourages the division of the project into parts and has the ability to learn the pace of work as points are created and assignment to different stories and predicts when the project will be completed. All team members know what needs to be done, and what has been completed, thus allowing the team to prioritize the main objectives, have a broad view of the workflow and a daily monitoring of the project.

Unlike Trello and parallel with Jira, Pivotal Tracker has a high tool learning curve, no Gantt charts, no bug tracking and no milestone tracking. It is less complex than Jira so it will be better for simpler projects. It also is easy to use unlike Jira, which may be confusing.

3. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Agile method is really useful for getting things done fast and as the client wants. It overcomes the risk of spending a lot of time if there are any changes required. The Agile project management tools help increase the performance of a team by ensuring a quick response to changes in every stage of production, including team communication, task management, issue tracking, and knowledge sharing. All of them have their advantages and disadvantages. A choice to use one of them should be made depending on the complexity of the project, the complexity of the team and the needs of the project. Some may be better for some cases and others may be better in other scenarios.

4. REFERENCES

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